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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/607,520	06/27/2003	Tetsuya Sugimoto	325772032500	6027

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EXAMINER

FORD, GRANT M

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2141

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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06/21/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/607,520

Applicant(s)

SUGIMOTO, TETSUYA

Examiner

Grant Ford

Art Unit

2141

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 24 May 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-15 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 June 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6-27-03, 11-15-05, 2-8-06</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(a) the invention was known or used by others in this country, or patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country, before the invention thereof by the applicant for a patent.

3. Claims 1,6-10,12-13,and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a) as being anticipated by Shikida (JP 2002-157095).

The Examiner notes that all Shikida page references listed below are specifically pointing to the English translation provided by Applicants on 5-24-2007.

a. As per claim 1, Shikida discloses transmitting an address request command for requesting a network address of said printing apparatus and a network address of said client to said printing apparatus via said server (Figure 5, Pages 1-2 – see Solving Means); and

receiving the network address of said printing apparatus transmitted from said printing apparatus via said network in response to the transmission of said address request command (Pages 1-2 – see Solving Means).

b. As per claim 6, Shikida discloses a printing apparatus connected to a network and provided to an environment of said network through a server, comprising:

a storage unit to store a network address allocated to said printing apparatus on said network (Pages 9-10);

an input portion to input data from said server (Pages 9-10);

a determination portion to determine whether said input data is a print job (Pages 9-10); and

a transmission portion to transmit, when said determination unit determines that said input data is not a print job, the network address of said printing apparatus to a client specified by a network address included in said input data via said network (Pages 9-10, see step S307).

c. As per claim 7, Shikida discloses a prohibition portion to prohibit, when said determination portion determines that said input data is not a print job, printing of said input data (Page 10).

d. As per claim 8, Shikida discloses a computer readable recording medium recording a control program executed in a client connected via a network to a server connected to a printing apparatus, said control program causing said client to execute steps of:

generating data for transmitting an address request command for requesting a network address of said printing apparatus and a network address of said client (Pages 8-9);

transmitting said address request command, said data and a print job to said printing apparatus via said server (Pages 9-10); and receiving the network address of said printing apparatus transmitted from said printing apparatus via said network in response to the transmission of said address request command (Pages 10-11).

e. As per claim 9, Shikida discloses a step of displaying, in accordance with the reception of said network address, the received network address (Page 11).

f. As per claim 10, Shikida discloses a step of setting identification information for specifying said printing apparatus via said server, wherein said transmission step is executed in accordance with said identification information (Pages 9-10).

g. As per claim 12, Shikida discloses a printing apparatus connected to a network and provided to an environment of said network through a server, comprising: a storage unit to store a network address allocated to said printing apparatus on said network; an input portion to input data from said server;

a determination portion to determine whether said input data is a print job or an address request command (Pages 9-10); and

a connection establishment portion to establish, when said determination portion determines that said input data is an address request command, a connection with a device specified by a network address included in said address request command via said network, wherein said determination portion determines based on a header of said input data (Pages 9-10).

h. As per claim 13, Shikida discloses a computer readable recording medium recording a printer driver program executed in a computer connected to a network, said printer driver program causes said computer to execute steps of:

accepting specification of a printing apparatus administered by a server
(Pages 9-10);

transmitting an IP address of said computer to said printing apparatus
(Pages 8-10); and

receiving data transmitted from said printing apparatus and obtaining an IP address of said printing apparatus from the received data (Pages 9-11).

i. As per claim 15, Shikida discloses a printing apparatus connected to a network and provided to an environment of said network through a server, comprising:

a storage unit to store an address for specifying said printing apparatus on said network; a reception portion to receive data from said server (Pages 9-10);

an obtainment portion to obtain, when a command requesting a transmission of the address of said printing apparatus is included in the received data, an address of a transmitter of the received data included in the received data (Pages 8-11); and

a transmission portion to transmit the address of said printing apparatus stored in said storage unit to the obtained address (Pages 8-11).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 2-5, 11, and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shikida in view of Mochizuki (US 2002/0001495).

a. As per claim 2, Shikida fails to explicitly disclose specification of a port number.

Mochizuki teaches wherein a port number for specifying said control program is further transmitted in said transmission step (Para. 0052). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of a port number with a transmission requesting printer information. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of specifying LAN protocol-level handling information for printer information retrieval (Para. 0052).

b. As per claim 3, Shikida fails to explicitly teach a control program for outputting and instruction screen for prompting a user to input an instruction for transmitting an address request command.

Mochizuki teaches wherein said control program further causes the client to execute a step of outputting an instruction screen for prompting a user to input an instruction for transmitting said address request command, wherein said transmission step is executed on condition that said instruction for transmission is input (Para. 0051-

0052). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of an input screen for prompting user input regarding instructions for transmitting an address request command with network printer systems. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of allowing a user to select localized printers from which to acquire address information (Para. 0052).

c. As per claim 4, Shikida fails to explicitly teach the use of an instruction screen for prompting a user to input an instruction for transmitting an address request command.

Mochizuki teaches wherein an input of information for specifying said printing apparatus is accepted at said instruction screen, said information being in a format including a server name and a printing apparatus name (Para. 0051-0052). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of an input screen for prompting user input regarding instructions for transmitting an address request command with network printer systems. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of allowing a user to select localized printers from which to acquire address information (Para. 0052). The Examiner notes that in the case of an address request, the printer which returns address information in response to an address request is functioning as a server by definition.

d. As per claim 5, Shikida discloses wherein the network address is an IP address (Page 10 – see NIC_ADDRESS).

e. As per claim 11, Shikida fails to explicitly disclose displaying network address information of a printer on a screen for setting said identification information.

Mochizuki teaches said control program further causing said client to execute a step of displaying the network address of said printing apparatus received at said reception step on a screen for setting said identification information (Para. 0054). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of displaying returned printer information on a screen for identification information with network printing systems. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of allowing a host to determine returned printer information's relevancy based on identification information previously entered (Para. 0054).

f. As per claim 14, Shikida fails to explicitly disclose specification of a port number.

Mochizuki teaches wherein a port number for specifying said control program is further transmitted with the IP address in said transmission step (Para. 0052). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the use of a port number with a transmission requesting printer information. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do so for the purpose of specifying LAN protocol-level handling information for printer information retrieval (Para. 0052).


Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Grant Ford whose telephone number is (571)272-8630. The examiner can normally be reached on 8-5:30 Mon-Thurs alternating Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571)272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

gmf


RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER